

**REMARKS**

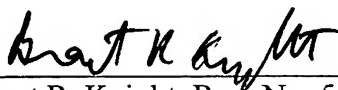
In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 9, 11 and 12 and objected to claims 10, 13, 14 and 16-21. Also, the Examiner indicated that claims 9-14 and 16-21 include allowable subject matter.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of the allowable subject matter in the claims. Further, while Applicants do not necessarily concede that the Examiner's rejection of claims 9, 11 and 12 is correct, Applicants are submitting herewith a properly executed terminal disclaimer regarding U.S. Patent No. 6,664,406. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the attached terminal disclaimer obviates the Examiner's obviousness-type double patenting rejection.


### CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks set forth above, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection and allowance of claims 9-14 and 16-21. If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Brent R. Knight, Reg. No. 54,226  
Attorney for applicant

ExxonMobil Upstream Research Company  
P.O. Box 2189  
Houston, Texas 77252-2189  
Telephone: (713) 431-4563  
Facsimile: (713) 431-4664

Certification under 37 CFR §§ 1.8(a) and 1.10	
I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this application/correspondence attached hereto is being:	
<b>MAILING</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for <u>Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231</u> 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)	<input type="checkbox"/> as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" 37 C.F.R. § 1.10
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> with sufficient postage as first class mail.	
<div>Monica Stansberry <small>Typed or printed name of person mailing correspondence</small></div> <div> <small>Signature of person mailing correspondence</small></div>	<div>NA <small>Express Mail mailing number</small></div> <div>September 30, 2005 <small>Date of Deposit</small></div>
<b>TRANSMISSION</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> transmitted by facsimile to the Examiner Jennifer H. Gay at the USPTO facsimile number:	